

## *MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD*

**SUBJECT: Stakeholder and Public Meetings – Roseau, Minnesota  
Screening of Alternatives Report, Feasibility Study**

1. On Wednesday and Thursday 13-14 April 2005, four meetings were held in Roseau, Minnesota associated with the screening of alternatives done as part of the subject feasibility studies. More specifics regarding each of these meetings follows:
  - A meeting with Corps, MDNR, and USFWS officials was held in the DNR office immediately northwest of Roseau on the morning of 13 April.
  - An initial meeting with potentially affected landowners was held in High School Auditorium from 7pm to 9 pm on 13 April. A letter inviting known landowners who might want to participate in the initial information meeting was sent out (see enclosure 1 for details). A sign-in roster listing the meeting participants is attached as enclosure 2.
  - A meeting with the Flood Control Task Force was held in the County Courthouse conference room on the afternoon of 14 April. A sign-in roster listing the meeting participants is attached as enclosure 3.
  - An open house formatted meeting was conducted between 5pm and 8pm on 14 April with interested citizens in the County Courthouse conference room. A sign-in roster listing the meeting participants is attached as enclosure 4.
2. The purpose of all these meetings was to brief participants on the progress that has been made to formulate a Federal flood control project for Roseau through the ongoing Feasibility Study and the obtain local inputs that can be integrated into the upcoming refined project formulations. Handouts used to brief these meeting participants are attached as enclosure 4.
3. Key points presented at each of these meetings included:
  - The screening of alternatives has now been completed and the East Diversion alternative has been identified as the “selected plan”. This plan has been tentatively shown to be feasible from a costs to benefits perspective and has the least social impacts of the primary flood control alternatives evaluated.
  - Optional features that could be added to the project as multipurpose features were presented conceptually. Consideration and a tentative decision by the local sponsors and public about adding such features is

now needed (i.e., if desired by the local Sponsor/s, the Corps will integrate such features into the final recommended plans).

- Refinements will be made to the selected East Diversion plan in the upcoming weeks to optimize the size and performance of the project, to modify the project designs and alignments to minimize landowner and environmental impacts, and to fully document the expected costs, benefits, and impacts of the recommended plan. A formal draft plan and environmental assessment will be prepared in the next few months that will fully document the planning process and the recommended plan.
- A screening of alternatives report provides details about the findings to this point in the study and it is posted on the City website under the flood control link. More detailed engineering and economic analysis will be done in the upcoming months for inclusion into the Draft and Final reports. The draft report is scheduled for completion in June 2005 and the final report is now scheduled to be completed by the end of 2005.

4. Noteworthy inputs received during these intermediate coordination meetings will be evaluated by the design team for incorporation into a refined project design and these follow:

- Environmental Coordination Meeting -- Potential effects of the project on sedimentation, erosion, and fish passage are key environmental factors that will require further design evaluations and coordination with the USFWS and the MDNR. These concerns were focused on the design of the tentatively identified restriction structure near the inlet to the diversion channel.
- Landowners Meeting -- Many landowner concerns were identified and will require evaluation and integration wherever possible to avoid or minimize impacts to existing properties. These inputs included: A changed alignment of the diversion inlet so as to go through the city park; Adding a bridge at the diversion channel crossing at County Rd. 24; Providing reliable road access to residential structures at the downstream end of the channel; Consider chances at downstream outlet of the channel that would allow the farm homestead structure near the Hay Creek confluence to be preserved. Many other landowner inputs were captured on flipcharts and on input sheets and will be considered by the design team in upcoming weeks.
- Flood Control Task Force Meeting -- There is a need for the local Flood Control Task Force to continue involvement in coordinating interagency actions associated with the implementation and operations of flood control projects for Roseau and the surrounding area, including the tentatively proposed East Diversion Plan. There is also a need for the Final Feasibility Study to recognize that upstream storage is a critical component of a long-range plan to protect the City and rural community from future flooding. Concern was expressed for the need to avoid and if possible eliminate induced affects of the recommended plan. There was general support expressed for integration of public recreation and

environmental features into the flood control project. The flood control Task Force Polaris representative expressed support for the East Diversion plan and also indicated that Polaris would participate in efforts to refine the recreation and environmental features that might be integrated into the final plans.

- Public Workshop/Meeting -- At the public workshop/meeting many of the same ideas, inputs, and concerns that were expressed by the landowners and agencies were reiterated. In general the public seemed to be supportive of the selected plan and of integrating recreation features into the final plan design.
5. These meetings were very constructive and provided the project delivery team with meaningful inputs that will allow for refinements to the project formulation and identified areas of opportunity or local concern that will need to be further evaluated and coordinated in the next couple of months.

/s/

Ed McNally  
**Project Manager**

Enclosures

Landowners Letter  
Sign in for Landowner Meeting  
Sign in for Task Force Meeting  
Sign in for Public Workshop/Meeting  
Handouts